

Message Text

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ACTION EA-07

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-10 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-14

USIA-04 OMB-01 CU-03 DRC-01 /059 W

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R 071027Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6316

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 6658

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, KS

SUBJECT: NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SESSION

1. DURING OCT 7 MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR, PRIME MINISTER KIM CHONG PIL REPORTED THAT MORNING SESSION OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY HAD TURNED OUT TO BE MUCH EASIER THAN EXPECTED. NDP LEADER KIM YONG SAM'S SPEECH WAS MILD IN CONTRAST GOVERNMENT EXPECTATIONS.

2. PRIMIN CITED SEVERAL INDICATIONS OF MILDNESS ON PART OF KIM YONG SAM. FIRST HIS SPEECH CALLED ONLY FOR NATIONAL ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE STUDY OF CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION, RATHER THAN DRASTIC ACTION.

2. SECOND, KIM YONG SAM DID NOT MAKE DIRECT REQUEST FOR PRESIDENTIAL RESIGNATION AS GOVERNMENT HAD EXPECTED. FINALLY, ALTHOUGH KIM YONG SAM HAD STATED THAT HIS SPEECH WAS NOT INTERPELLATION AND URGED OPPOSITION TO DEPART BEFORE PRIMIN COULD RESPOND, ONLY ONE OTHER MEMBER OF OPPOSITION JOINED KIM IN WALKING OUT OF ASSEMBLY.

3. PRIMIN AS RESULT ENCOURAGED THAT MODERATE TONE
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MAY BE ABLE TO BE RETAINED DURING ASSEMBLY SESSION.

HE REITERATED AS LONG AS OPPOSITION RESTRICTED ITSELF TO EXPRESSING CRITICISM WITHIN ASSEMBLY AND DID NOT ENCOURAGE STREET DEMONSTRATIONS, GOVERNMENT WOULD NOT REACT DECISIVELY. IN THIS CONNECTION, HE ALSO MENTIONED THAT SO FAR STUDENTS SITUATION WELL IN HAND, NOT BECAUSE STUDENTS HAVE GIVEN UP OPPOSITION TO GOVERNMENT, BUT BECAUSE THEY LACK ORGANIZATION AND LEADERSHIP DUE TO GOVERNMENT MEASURES.

4. COMMENT: PRIMIN SOMEWHAT UNDERSTATED SUBSTANCE OF KIM YONG SAM'S SPEECH (SEPTTEL). HOWEVER, IT IS CLEAR THAT GOVERNMENT HAD EXPECTED MUCH MORE EMOTIONAL, WIDE-RANGING ATTACK BY KIM.
SNEIDER

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TAGS: PINT, KS, (KIM YONG SAM)
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